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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Montana's Research and Analysis Bureau Receives 2006 NASWA Awards

Helena --- The National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) recently announced the Montana Department of Labor and Industry's Research and Analysis Bureau as the recipient of two nationally recognized 2006 NASWA Labor Market Information Communication/Publication Awards.

This year there were six categories of recognition, of which Montana received two:

- Internet Product or Service Providing Labor market and Workforce Information to Customers for www.ourfactsyourfuture.org
- Product or Service to Increase Workforce Development Staff's Understanding of Labor Market and Workforce Information for "Montana's LMI Boot Camp."

"Montana's business community is fortunate to have the leadership of the Labor and Industry Research and Analysis Bureau to collect and analyze labor market information, as well as other critical economic data for business decision making," said Richard A. Hobbie, PhD, National Association of State Workforce Agencies' Executive Director.

(more)

The 2006 judges for the national publication/communications awards program were:

- Ms. Bridget Brown, Executive Director, America's Career Resource Network Association (ACRNA)
- Mr. David Gibbons, Majority Clerk, Labor Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee, U.S. House of Representatives Appropriations Committee
- Ms. Linda Levine, Labor Economist, Congressional Research Service, Domestic Social Policy Division, Library of Congress
- Mr. Martin Simon, Program Director, Social, Economic and Workforce Program Division, National Governors Association (NGA)

The National Association of State Workforce Agencies is the national organization of state officials who administer employment and training services, unemployment insurance laws, and labor market information programs in the 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The state Labor Market Information divisions produce, analyze and distribute workforce information vital to economic, education and career decision making. These statistics include employment, unemployment, and wage information produced through federal-state cooperative programs administered by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

For additional information regarding receipt of the awards or other R&A products and services, please contact Annette Miller, 406-444-2741.